



Water Infrastructure Finance Authority of Arizona

NEWS RELEASE

1110 West Washington, Suite 290 • Phoenix, 85007 • www.azwifa.gov

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Contact: Veronica Rivera, Communications Director: (602) 364-1236

WIFA Chairman Owens Announces \$35,000 Grant to Mayer Water Improvement District in Yavapai County to Address Nitrate Pollution

PHOENIX- Water Infrastructure Finance Authority (WIFA) Chairman Steve Owens announced today that WIFA has awarded a \$35,000 technical assistance grant to the Mayer Domestic Water Improvement District to help the district address the elevated levels of nitrates found in groundwater in the area.

Groundwater in the areas has been contaminated by nitrate pollution caused by discharges from on-site wastewater (septic) systems and improperly treated wastewater discharged directly into Big Bug Creek, adjacent to many Mayer DWID drinking water supply wells. The Mayer DWID is working to identify new drinking water supplies to replace the supplies that are no longer usable due to the nitrate contamination.

"This grant will help the Mayer Domestic Water Improvement District address its drinking water needs and deal with the problems it is facing because of the nitrate contamination in the groundwater in the area," said Chairman Owens, who is also Director of the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality. "We want to help the Mayer DWID ensure that they have adequate supplies of clean drinking water."

The WIFA grant will fund basic engineering tools and data, including surveying, mapping, inventorying, and pressure balance analysis needed to expand the water system.

WIFA, www.azwifa.gov, provides communities and private water systems with access to low-interest financial assistance and technical help needed for basic water infrastructure.